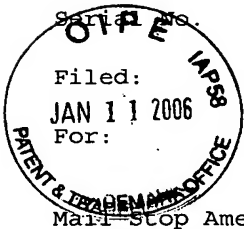


In re application of JAMES M. RHODES, ET AL.



Serial No. 10/606,533

Filed: June 26, 2003

For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
 COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ No additional fee is enclosed because this application was filed prior to October 25, 1965 (effective date of Public Law 89-83).
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☒ One stamped, self-addressed postcard for the PTO Mail Room date stamp.
- ☐ Petition For Extension of Time and charge to Deposit Account of Appropriate Fee.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

## CLAIMS AS AMENDED

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	45	minus	45	0	x \$ 50	=\$ 0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	5	minus	5	0	x \$200	=\$ 0.00
MULT. DEP. CLAIMS	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$360	=
				TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT		=\$ 0.00

- ☒ Charge \$0.00 to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP5054/SJM. Three copies of this sheet are enclosed.
- ☒ Please charge any additional fees in connection with the filing of this communication, or credit overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP5054/SJM. Three copies of this sheet are enclosed.

/Stephen J. Manich/  
 Stephen J. Manich  
 Attorney of Record  
 Reg. No. 30,657

Johnson & Johnson  
 One Johnson & Johnson Plaza  
 New Brunswick, New Jersey 08933-7003  
 (574) 372-7796  
 January 9, 2006



1FW

Docket No. DEP5054

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : JAMES M. RHODES, ET AL.  
Serial No. : 10/606,533 Art Unit: 3736  
Filed : June 26, 2003 Examiner: Kristin D. Rogers  
Title : SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

January 9, 2006

(Date of Deposit)

Stephen J. Manich

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

/Stephen J. Manich/

(Signature)

January 9, 2006

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to Restriction Requirement

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on 12/19/2005, Applicants elect Species IV, drawn to the device of FIG. 20. As disclosed at page 23, line 21 through page 24, line 3, the cylindrical portion 152 of the elongate support member 16 of FIGS. 20-24 can be received within the handle 20 or cartridge housing 144. The claims that read on this species are as follows: 1-7, 9, 11-19 and 21-24.

Please charge any fees which may be due to constitute this a timely response to the Office Action to deposit account no. 10-0750/DEP5054/SJM.

Respectfully submitted,  
/Stephen J. Manich/  
Stephen J. Manich  
Reg. No. 30,657  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Dated: January 9, 2006